filling the metallic sheath with a MgO mineral insulation including between 3% and 20% by dry weight of a kaolin additive, wherein the kaolin additive prevents moisture from infiltrating the insulation and increases the resistivity of the insulation at high temperatures; and drawing down the metallic sheath.

19. (Amended) A cable including an outer metallic sheath with at least one metallic conductor therein, and having a mineral insulation disposed between the outer sheath and the metallic conductor; and

the mineral insulation comprising an MgO insulation having a kaolin additive.

20. (Amended) A process of making a cable, comprising: providing an outer metallic sheath;

disposing at least one metallic conductor in the metallic sheath;

filling the metallic sheath with an MgO mineral insulation including a kaolin additive, wherein the kaolin additive prevents moisture from infiltrating the insulation and increases the resistivity of the insulation at high temperatures; and

drawing down the metallic sheath.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 4, 2002 has been carefully considered and this application has been amended in a manner which it is believed places it in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-20 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by International Patent Application WO 93/05520 to Koch et al. Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,007,472 to Kataoka et al. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch et al.